



MONROE CITY COUNCIL

Study Session Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 16, 2020, 7:00 P.M.
Zoom Online Meeting Platform

Mayor
Geoffrey Thomas

Councilmembers
*Ed Davis, Mayor Pro Tem;
Patsy Cudaback; Kevin Hanford;
Jason Gamble, Jeff Rasmussen;
Kirk Scarboro, & Heather Rousey*

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

1. Virtual Participation Information

The City Council meeting was held virtually via Zoom Meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and Proclamation 20-28.4 issued by Governor Jay Inslee, in-person attendance is not permitted at this time.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Thomas at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present:

Davis, Cudaback, Hanford, Gamble, Rasmussen, Scarboro, and Rousey

Staff Present:

Pfister, Knight, Palmer, Farrell, Swanson, Huebner

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Councilmember Gamble)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Hanford.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

This time is set aside for members of the public to speak to the City Council on any issue related to the City of Monroe; except any quasi-judicial matter subject to a public hearing; three minutes will be allowed per speaker.

There were no comments from the public.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation: Juneteenth (Mayor Thomas)

Mayor Thomas issued a Juneteenth Proclamation.

2. Proclamation: LGBTQ Pride Month (Mayor Thomas)

Mayor Thomas issued a LGBTQ Proclamation.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Cudaback noted that she was looking forward to Phase 3 of Governor Inslee's Safe Start Washington Plan.

Councilmember Cudaback reported that she recently attended a march against racism in Marysville.

Councilmember Davis asked Deputy City Clerk Gina Pfister to re-send the Zoom link for tonight's executive session.

Councilmember Rousey also asked for the executive session Zoom link.

Councilmember Gamble reported on the parade for Monroe High School graduating seniors.

STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

There were no staff or department reports.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. City Administrator Update (D. Knight)



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Ms. Deborah Knight, City Administrator, reported that the City received 8,000 face coverings from the state to be distributed to residents at or below 200% of the federal poverty level; the face coverings are also available to nonprofit service providers; and reported on the following topics:

- Status of the We are Monroe Campaign
- Monroe CARES Grant Program
- The City Council extended agenda
- Council meeting logistics after Phase 3 of Governor Inslee's Safe Start Washington Plan

Discussion ensued regarding what Council meetings would look like once in-person meetings are permitted.

2. Mayor's Update/Monroe This Week (*June 12, 2020, Volume 6, Edition 22*)

Mayor Thomas reported that Isaiah Cole, the Justice for George Floyd March & Rally organizer, would be holding a Juneteenth event at Sky River Park.

Mayor Thomas reported that the Walk the Heart painted walking path at Sky River Park would not be re-painted due to field maintenance.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. AB20-080: 2019 Economic Development Update (J. Palmer)

Mr. James Palmer, Economic Development Specialist, led Council through a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the following topics:

- Monroe Business Survey
- Economic Development Annual Report
- Impact of COVID-19 on Monroe businesses
- Business recruitment, retention, and expansion (BRRE)

Discussion ensued related to the following topics: business survey timelines and results; survey schedule; and Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) efforts.

Mayor Thomas thanked Mr. Palmer for his work. Further discussion opportunities regarding the business survey will be presented to Council at a later date.

2. AB20-081: Consideration of an Interim Ordinance to allow Temporary use of Private Property/Parking Areas for Outdoor Dining (B. Swanson)

Mr. Ben Swanson, Director of Community Development, presented a sample Ordinance from a neighboring city and proposed allowing eating and drinking establishments in Monroe to expand their capacity for serving dine-in customers temporarily during Phase 2 and 3 of Governor Inslee's Safe Start Washington Plan.

Discussion ensued related to the following topics: restaurant capacity; permit requirements; potential seating on a section of Blakely Street; sidewalk seating; insurance; and ADA accessibility.

Mr. Swanson will draft a proposed Ordinance to present at the next City Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. To discuss with legal counsel potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)
Action may or may not be taken.



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Mayor Thomas noted the need for an executive session and read the following statement:

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), the City Council and City Attorney, will now convene an executive session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation. The executive session will last until approximately 9:00 p.m., after which the Council will not take any additional open session action. For purposes of the executive session, the Council will terminate the current, publicly accessible Zoom meeting and will join a new Zoom meeting, the dial-in information for which has been separately provided to the Council Members. Both the current, publicly accessible Zoom meeting and the executive session Zoom meeting are each part of the same regular City Council meeting. I will notify the City Clerk when the executive session has ended so she can enter that information in the official minutes.

Councilmember Rasmussen moved to approve the above read statement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Cudaback. On vote, motion carried 7-0.

The meeting recessed to executive session at 8:32 p.m. and concluded at 8:55 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.